

## ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A packet switch and a packet switching method capable of taking the full advantage of the transfer capability of 5 the packet switch by avoiding the influence due to the congestion are disclosed. In the packet switch, the priority level according to the congestion status of the transfer target is attached to a packet, and the processing at a time of packet collision is carried out by accounting 10 for this priority level, so that it becomes possible to carry out the packet transfer control according to the congestion status of the transfer target of each packet.

15

20

25

30

35